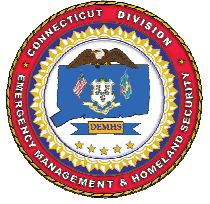




STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES & PUBLIC PROTECTION
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY



Posted at 1:30 PM on 10/31/13...

The National Weather Service has issued High Wind Watches for parts of New England including Middlesex and New London Counties in Connecticut from 5:00 AM Friday morning to 3:00 PM Friday afternoon.

A low pressure system currently located over Wisconsin is forecast to move slowly to the Northeast across the upper Great Lakes as it intensifies during the next 18 - 24 hours. As this storm moves to our west a strong high pressure system located east of Cape Cod is forecast to generate a tight pressure gradient between the two weather systems late tonight and during the day on Friday across most of New England. The GFS and NAM models are forecasting the likelihood for a strong wind event late tonight and during the day on Friday. The models are forecasting that South Southwest winds will develop late tonight and increase to 15 – 25 MPH with gusts to 35 MPH before daybreak on Friday. Lows overnight are forecast to be in the mid 60's with rain showers at times.

Friday...A period of strong winds and moderate rain is expected between 5:00 AM and 3:00 PM on Friday. South southwest winds are forecast to increase to 25 – 30 MPH with gusts to 45 MPH at times by 6:00 AM. These winds are forecast to continue through the morning with the potential for a few higher gusts to 50 MPH as a cold front crosses the State between 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM. The strongest winds are expected along the coast and in the higher elevations. The winds are then forecast to shift to the West after the cold front passes our area and slowly subside Friday evening.

The impact of the strong winds is expected to result in a minor to locally moderate number of power outages across the state. Most towns are expected to see scattered power outages with a few towns experiencing a moderate impact with multiple outages. Rainfall is not expected to be a threat with this storm (around 3/4") and soils are fairly dry across the state. The dry soil combined with the leaves being off many trees in Northern and Central CT should help to reduce the impact of the event somewhat in those areas. Some roads may become slick with falling wet leaves during the morning rush hour.

The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security will continue to monitor the latest forecasts and will send out another update this afternoon at 4:00 PM.

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